

GREAT News

GRESHAM RESOURCE EFFICIENCY ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESSES

SUMMER 2010

Visit Our Website for Green Business Events and Classes

There are many events happening around Gresham and the Metro area to help train and educate business owners, managers and employees about running a leaner, greener business.

We've compiled a list of upcoming regional green business events and classes.

The list includes a September event happening in Gresham:

PGE's "Energy & Water Efficiency - Double Your Savings" workshop is from 7:30 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, Sept. 21, at Gresham City Hall, 1333 N.W. Eastman Parkway. More details online; to register call 503-464-8020.

Visit the Green at Work page at GreshamOregon.gov/Sustainability.



If you're conserving resources in your business, let us know. We love creative approaches, and sharing stories of GREAT Business practices.

Want help making your workplace GREAT? We provide free on site assistance, training and setup.

If you have questions about any of the topics discussed in this issue of GREAT

News, please contact us at:

503-618-2694

GREATBiz@GreshamOregon.gov

or visit GreshamOregon.gov/GREATBiz

Save the Date: GREAT Celebration and Networking Event Oct. 26

You've all worked hard on greening your business, and we appreciate you. Now let's have some fun. We're hosting a celebration and networking event to wrap up the "Pledge to be GREAT in 2010" campaign and recognize all certified businesses.

GREAT Celebration
Tuesday, Oct. 26, 5 to 7 p.m.
4th Street Brewing, 77 NE 4th St.

This invitation-only event is open to certified GREAT Businesses, GREAT Recyclers and GREAT pledges. We'll invite City staff and Council members to get to know you, your business, and your efforts. More details and invitations will be coming soon.

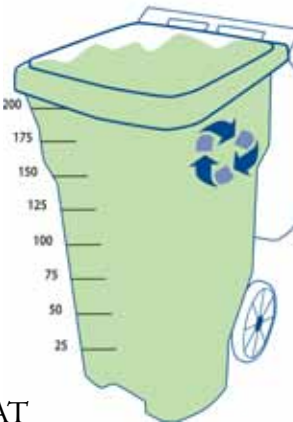
Still time to pledge

Do you want to have your business recognized for its green efforts and attend the event?

There's still time to Pledge to be GREAT and get an invitation. Call 503-618-2694 or visit GreshamOregon.gov/GreatBiz

Sponsorships available

Do you want to sponsor the event? GREAT Businesses are invited to sponsor at a variety of levels. Please e-mail GREATbiz@GreshamOregon.gov or call 503-618-2694.



September Bike Commute Challenge – Another Green Option for Your Business

Do you or your employees ride your bikes to work? Are you interested in trying bike commuting with your staff but need a little extra incentive? Whether you're a rider or an employer, the Bike Commute Challenge is for you.

The Challenge runs the month of September and is organized by the Bicycle Transportation Alliance. Commuters register their workplace and log their bike commute miles to compete with other workplaces and commuters for prizes.

Sign up for the Bike Commute Challenge at bikecommutechallenge.com.

A local resource

To increase the awareness, the Gresham Regional Center Transportation Management Association (GRCTMA) will host events and activities around bike commuting in September.

The GRCTMA offers programs and services to help people get safely and easily to the places in Gresham where they live, work, and play. Employers can take advantage of transit passes, certifications, tax incentives, and other programs. GRCTMA staff emphasize the use of walking, biking, carpooling, transit, and other modes, rather than driving alone.

For more information contact the GRCTMA at 503-665-7616 or e-mail grctma@gdda.org.



GREAT Businesses Spotlight: Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center

What business has nearly 600 employees, composts more than 5 tons of food waste a month, and donates 42 pallets of used scrubs a year to a national relief charity versus throwing them away?

Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center has been a certified GREAT Business since 2006. Last year, the hospital served nearly 20,000 in-patients and 50,000 visitors in its emergency department.

LMHMC is a major business with a lot going on, but proves that big business can be GREAT when it comes to waste reduction, energy efficiency, and conserving natural resources.

Legacy staff have implemented a multitude of ways to be green in the workplace, says Troy Potter, facilities manager.

“The people who gravitate towards careers in healthcare do so because they care and want to make a difference, and this is another way to make a difference,” Potter says. “It works because we have the support from above to make it work.”

Staff avoid unnecessary printing, use double-sided copying, and print on recycled content paper. The overall impact of these actions within the Legacy system spares 2,380 trees a year from being harvested and prevents the release of 210,000 pounds of greenhouse gas.

Legacy also uses recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper in the hospital and in its three onsite medical office buildings.

The hospital is just as proactive when it comes to saving energy. It has replaced many incandescent light fixtures with compact

fluorescent fixtures (CFLs), replaced fluorescent exit signs with LED fixtures, and added a variable speed drive to its existing chiller to maximize efficiency during low demand periods.

“The energy-saving measures we’ve implemented to date equal turning off the electricity at Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center for approximately 40 days per year, or just over a 10 percent reduction in energy use,” Potter says.

GREAT Businesses is proud to have this facility as a certified business.

Legacy Spotlight Actions:

- Holds a weekly farmers’ market to promote local produce.
- Donates used oil from the kitchen to make biodiesel for vehicles.
- Eliminates mercury by using digital thermometers.
- Recycles more than half its waste.
- Sends out a monthly electronic newsletter with green resource tips to staff.
- Uses stormwater swales to funnel parking lot and roof water into onsite treatment ponds.
- Supports a staff Green Team to get involved and make changes in the workplace.



Food Donations Needed

SnowCap Community Charities and GREAT Businesses staff have teamed up to bring restaurant-quality food to low-income families in our area. Food-producing businesses such as restaurants, cafes, delis, etc. are encouraged to donate leftover food to SnowCap.

Two Gresham restaurants are already participating in this local food donation program; a big thanks to Harry’s Fresh Foods and Silk Espresso.

Many different kinds of food can be donated.

- produce, dairy and deli items
- leftover catered foods
- baked goods
- unserved menu items such as soup, pasta, rice, beans, lasagna, sauce, etc.
- unserved buffet foods
- meat or menu items that can be frozen but not served to customers

It’s easy to do

SnowCap and GREAT Businesses will work with you to determine the best method for packing, preparing and storing your donated food.

We can provide containers and set up a schedule for pick up that best suits you.



Want to help?

Call the GREAT Businesses team at 503-618-2694 or e-mail us at GREATbiz@GreshamOregon.gov.



Eco-Logical Business Program Offers Free Advertising

The Eco-Logical Business “EcoBiz” Program recognizes automotive and landscape businesses that reach high standards in minimizing their environmental impacts on water, air and solid waste.

Become EcoBiz certified and receive free advertising to drive environmentally-conscious customers to your doorstep. The first five businesses to become certified will receive a free spill kit.

To qualify, participating businesses must demonstrate they have programs for employee education and safety, and practices that manage hazardous materials properly.

Technical assistance and certification are free, and participation is voluntary.

The Pollution Prevention Outreach Group administers the EcoBiz program and comprises the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Northwest Automotive Trades Association, and various county and local government agencies including the City of Gresham.

For program details to get your business started, visit www.ecobiz.org. Or contact Laura Dose, City of Gresham, 503-618-2758, or Laura.Dose@GreshamOregon.gov.



The Recycling Symbol: What Does it Mean?

The chasing arrows recycling symbol is on many products; however there is little regulation on its use. This has created confusion with the public on the meaning of this symbol.

The presence of what appears to be a recycling symbol does not necessarily mean the product will be accepted locally or even that it contains recycled content.

For example, this symbol on plastic does not indicate that it is made from recycled content or that it can be recycled locally.

Paper products with the symbol can indicate that it is recyclable or that the product is made from recycled material. Recycled content products will usually have a percentage with the recycling symbol indicating how much is made of recycled content.

GREAT Business staff recommends reading the fine print on the product you are purchasing to find out why it is green or why the symbol is there.

Incentives for Small Businesses

The Gresham Small Business Center is offering two Small Business Incentives between now and March 31, 2011, as a way to support established local business, welcome newcomers, boost our local economy and fill vacant storefronts.

Efficiency is a great thing for business. So are financial incentives, especially when you're small, just starting out, or hoping to expand.

Garage-to-Storefront Incentive

The Garage-to-Storefront Incentive encourages home-based business owners and other entrepreneurs to move into vacant commercial space by providing a holiday from the first-year business license fee, development-related fees and system development charges. Qualifying businesses must be 5,000 square feet or less in size and must open or expand within designated commercial areas of Downtown, Central Rockwood or the Civic Neighborhood.

The First-Year Business License Incentive

This incentive waives the cost of that license, even though the license itself is still required. This incentive applies to businesses of 5,000 square feet or less that move into vacant commercial space anywhere in the city. To qualify, the space has to already exist in one of Gresham's commercial areas, but presently be vacant.

In both cases, restrictions apply.

For more information about either program, visit GreshamOregon.gov/SmallBusiness or call Small

Business Coordinator Kristin Chiles at 503-618-2872.

SMALLBUSINESS
CENTER

Symbol facts

The symbol was created in 1970 for recycled paper products. It was given over to public domain and is not a trademark.

The symbol is not regulated by the United States government. Although the symbol is used on products nationwide, the laws governing these products are determined locally – and vary widely.

In 1988, the Society of the Plastics Industry began to use the symbol on plastic containers and added numbers to identify resin types. The resin numbers help recycling centers organize like plastics together, but they don't indicate if the plastic is accepted in the local recycling system.

You may also see the symbol on “compostable” products. This does not mean they are recyclable or even compostable in your home compost. To be sure, run a test in your compost and call your recycling hauler for clarification.

Congratulations to These GREAT Businesses

Support local businesses that are working to make a greener, more prosperous future. These certified GREAT Businesses are recognized by the City of Gresham for their achievements in recycling, buying recycled-content supplies, conserving energy and water, and properly maintaining their wastewater and stormwater systems.

GREAT
Businesses

Accommodation & Food Service

Bryant's Station Restaurant
Burgerville
Cedarville Inn
Chang's Mongolian Grill
Coffee Avenue
Coffee's On
Flying Pie Pizzeria
Holiday Inn
Olive Garden
Outback Steakhouse
Panda Express
Silk Espresso
Starbucks – Gresham Station
Sunny Han's
Sushiville

Retail & Services

Accuprint
Amiton Furniture
Backyard Birdshop
Cantel Sweeping
Columbia Equine Hospital
Gresham Roofing and Gutter
Heavenly Maid Cleaning Service
Image Pressworks
Minuteman Press
Parr Lumber
Rockwood Solid Waste
Springwater Jewelers
The House of Tattoo

Automotive

3 C Automotive, Inc.
Affordable Quality Automotive
All About Automotive
Auto Repair Specialists
Eco Car Wash
Gresham Ford
Kadel's Auto Body

Educational

Gresham-Barlow Education
Foundation
Gresham-Barlow School District
Business Office
Gresham-Barlow School District
Facilities
Mt Hood Community College

Manufacturing, Distribution & Technology

American Honda NW Regional
Center
Fujicolor Processing, Inc.
Kinco, International
Microchip Technology, Inc.
ON Semiconductor
Pella Corporation
Teeny Foods
Trailblazer Foods
Waxie Sanitary

Medical & Health

Adventist Health – Gresham
Imaging Center
Body of Wisdom – Natural
Family Medicine
Calcagno Pediatrics
Dr. Perry Stevenson DDS, MS,
PC
Dr. Raymond Onchi DMD
Dr. Robert W. Jones DDS
Gresham Pediatric Therapy
Services
Legacy Mount Hood Medical
Center
Mt. Hood Women's Health
NW Gymnastics – Gymnastics
Academy
Olympic Gym

Oregon Eye Specialists
Pain Relief Specialists Northwest
Pediatric Associates of Gresham
Providence Medical Group
Rose City Breast Care
The Center for Men's and
Women's Urology
Urgent Care Northwest

Offices & Non-Profit Organizations

AAA Oregon – Wood Village
branch
Center for Family Success
Cramer Fish Sciences
East Metro Association of
Realtors
Edward Jones Investments,
Gresham Station
Gresham Area Chamber of
Commerce
Gresham History Museum
Kohler Meyers O'Halloran, Inc.
Landmark Tax & Investment
Services
Lori Stegmann Insurance Agency
Snow-Cap
US Bank Corporate

Governmental

City of Gresham City Hall &
Operations Center
Department of Environmental
Quality
Gresham Fire – Stations 71 & 72
Multnomah County Fleet
Maintenance, Shop Annex, &
Probation Office
Oregon Department of Revenue
– Gresham Field Office

Veolia Wastewater Treatment
Facility

GREAT Recyclers

Best Cellars Catering
Books 4 Giving
Buttons-Now.com
Grayco, LLC
Mt. Hood Organics
Northwest Enforcement
Small Business Development
Center
Sole Position Internet Marketing
Total Car Care
Trans Rim Pacific, LLC
Umpqua Bank – Gresham
Station Branch



Carbon Neutral Newsletter
Green tags were purchased to offset
the carbon released as a result of
the production of this newsletter.

